

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAB-01 EURE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00

INT-08 SCEM-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-14 CIEP-02 CEA-02

DRC-01 /166 W

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R 101646Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8306

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0080

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, EEC, DA XF

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN EMISSARIES VISIT COPENHAGEN

REF: COPENHAGEN 3224

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SUMMARY: TWO EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS WHO VISITED COPENHAGEN THIS WEEK HAD LITTLE TO ADD TO WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN SAID BY OTHER AND BETTER PUBLICIZED SPOKESMEN FOR ARAB VIEWPOINT. THEY WERE CRITICAL OF OPEC PRICE HIKE AND CLAIMED SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD ASSURED EGYPTIANS OF COMPLETE ISRAEL WITHDRAWAL IN ORDER OBTAIN THEIR AGREEMENT TO ATTEND GENEVA CONFERENCE. DANES ARE NOT CURRENTLY EXPECTING LIBYAN EMISSARIES TO VISIT COPENHAGEN ON THEIR EUROPEAN TRAVELS. END SUMMARY.

1. TWO MEMBERS OF EGYPTIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, ITS VICE CHAIRMAN GAMAL EL OTIEFY AND ABU BAKR EL BASEL, MEMBER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, LEFT COPENHAGEN FOR OSLO JANUARY 10 AFTER 2 DAY VISIT. ALTHOUGH SELF-INVITED, THEY WERE TREATED AS GUESTS OF DANISH PARLIAMENT AND HAD A FULL PROGRAM OF SOCIAL EVENTS. THEY MET LEADERS OF MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES AS WELL AS NEW FOREIGN MINISTER OVE GULDBERG AND ALSO PAID A BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON PRIME MINISTER HARTUNG. ALTHOUGH OSTENSIBLY HERE TO ACQUAINT DANES WITH ARAB SIDE OF MID-EAST CONFLICT, ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE EL OTIEFY QUICKLY REALIZED DANGERS OF OVERSELLING THIS ALREADY WELL KNOWN LINE.

2. MFA AND EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR REPORTEDLY TRIED TO DISSUADE VISITORS FROM COMING TO COPENHAGEN AT THIS TIME BECAUSE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION JUST GETTING UNDER WAY AND GOVT'S SITUATION PRECARIOUS. THEY INSISTED ON COMING ANYWAY, HOWEVER, BECAUSE THEY ARE ALSO PLANNING TO VISIT OTHER SCANDINAVIANS ON SAME TRIP. DANES HAVE HEARD FROM BRUSSELS, INCIDENTALLY, THAT FOUR LIBYAN MINISTERS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO EUROPE BUT AS OF NOW DO NOT EXPECT THEM TO COME TO COPENHAGEN.

3. EGYPTIANS STRESSED THEIR SERIOUS ATTITUDE TOWARD GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE AND INDICATED PLANNING WAS ALREADY WELL ADVANCED FOR REOPENING SUEZ CANAL AND REBUILDING NEIGHBORING TOWNS. EL OTIEFY TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE THAT EGYPTIANS WERE EXPECTING TO GET ALL OF SINAI BACK AS RESULT OF CONFERENCE AND THAT THEY WOULD NOT GIVE UP A SQUARE METER OF LAND TO GET PEACE. HENRY KISSINGER HAS ASSURED US, HE REPORTEDLY STATED, THAT ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL WILL BE COMPLETE. EGYPTIANS SHOWED LITTLE INTEREST IN PALESTINE QUESTION AND AVOIDED DISCUSSION OF SOVIET ROLE IN MID-EAST.

4. VISITORS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT OPEC DECISION TO INCREASE  
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OIL PRICES AND EL OTIEFY TOOK CREDIT FOR RECENT ARTICLE IN AL AHRAH CRITICIZING OPEC GREEDINESS. NUMEROUS DANES, INCLUDING DEFENSE MINISTER ERLING BRONDUM, WHO HOSTED DINNER IN THEIR HONOR, WARNED EGYPTIANS THAT PRESSURES FROM OIL PRODUCERS RISKED DAMAGING PROSPECTS FOR DESIRED COOPERATION BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND ARAB STATES. EGYPTIANS ENCOURAGED DANES TO SEEK BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH OIL RICH STATES, SUCH AS THOSE ALREADY EFFECTED BY OTHER EC COUNTRIES AND EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN OBTAINING

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AND MILITARY KNOW-HOW. MFA SOURCE SAID HE THOUGHT EGYPTIANS WERE FISHING FOR COMPLIMENTS ON RECENT ARAB DECISION TO LIMIT PRODUCTION CUTS BUT THAT DANES WERE CAREFUL NOT TO RESPOND. EL OTIEFY, WHO IS DESCRIBED AS PROMINENT CAIRO LAWYER AND SOPHISTICATED, EUROPEAN EDUCATED INDIVIDUAL INDICATED THAT EGYPTIAN DOMESTIC SITUATION HAS MELLOWED UNDER SADAT AND IMPLIED THAT SOME MOVEMENT IN DIRECTION OF GREATER PLURALISM SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED. HOWEVER, HE WAS CAREFUL NOT TO BE TOO EXPLICIT ON THIS POINT.

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